



Tiger Woods is the Master



Masters Champion, Tiger Woods

AUGUSTA—Fifty years ago, the year Jackie Robinson broke baseball's color line, Tiger Woods and Howard Wheeler were riding horses and trying to make the country as anywhere a promoter could attract an audience to see them play. It was fourteen years later when the PA lifted its "Caucasian clause," allowing Charlie Sifford to break golf's color line. It was a PA victory in 1975 that enabled Lee Elder to become the first black man to play in the Masters, golf's most prestigious event that until then was shut out to African-Americans. Since then only three other African-Americans have participated in the tournament: Jim Thorpe, Calvin Peete, and now Eldrick "Tiger" Woods. Last Sunday just days before the 50th anniversary of Jackie Robinson's historic milestone, Woods added another note to the record book. With a 270-round score of 270, he became the first African-American to win the Masters, the 20th youngest, to win the event at Augusta National. Among the spectators cheering him on were his parents who hugged him after his historic victory, and Lee Elder, who came from his home in Pompano Beach Florida to attend the event and to see Woods don his green jacket.

His 12-stroke victory over Tom Kite was

See WOODS WEARS THE GREEN/page 10

AOL CRITICIZED FOR ALLOWING KLAN-RELATED SITE ON INTERNET

BOSTON (AP)—The Anti-Defamation League is criticizing America Online for an Internet site that has a hooded rider holding a burning cross and calls on viewers to "JOIN THE KLAN" and "SAVE OUR LAND."

Abram H. Foxman, national director of the Anti-Defamation League, asked America Online, the largest U.S. online service, to close the site. The Boston Globe reported Wednesday, Foxman said America Online prohibits racist material.

Wendy Goldberg, a spokeswoman for America Online, told the newspaper the company closed a Klan-related site that contained material her company considered "provocative." However, she said Foxman is criticizing "it is only historical in character," she said.

The site is called "Knights of Ku Klux Klan—realm of Texas," and was created by Michael Douglas Lowe, 48, a carpenter in Waco, Texas, who said he has belonged to the Klan since 1986.

The site calls for establishing "a White Christian Order up on earth," and denounces "the lies of the race-mixers and mongrelizers" who favor racial integration.

"We feel like we do have a responsibility to the public, and they are getting a service," Lowe said. "On our Web site, we're not anti-Semitic, anti-Negro, anti-Catholic."

Steven Freeman, director of legal affairs for the defunct league, said the organization is advocating censoring the Internet. The group is upset because of the perception that KKK material is unacceptable under America Online rules.

"It constitutes a statement that they don't think these views are offensive under their standards, and that sends a message," said Freeman, who said the group does not intend to take legal action.

Dulles, Virginia-based America Online operates the largest commercial network in the country. Customers can surf the Web and create sites that can be seen by any Internet users.

By Bob Egelko
Associated Press Writer

TORRICELLI WAFFLES ON PROMISE

By Daryle Lemont Jenkins

TRENTON—The Black Ministers Council of New Jersey held a press conference on Thursday charging Senator Robert Torricelli reneged on a promise made to them to appoint one African-American to one of the top three positions on his staff. The conference followed a lunch in which three democratic candidates came to speak to the group.

According to Rev. Reginald T. Jackson, executive director of the Black Ministers Council, Torricelli, saying he would be a fool not to, made the commitment during a meeting Oct. 8, in the midst of the senatorial campaign, with more than thirty ministers from the Council, including Jackson. After his election, in which he received 8 percent of the vote, Senator Jackson says the promise was not kept and attempts to meet with the new Senator to discuss the matter were in vain, as Torricelli seemed to cut off communication with the Council. Over the past month, they have sent letters to Torricelli about his promise; however, the

Senator responded that he did not make any type of commitment. In addition, a press release from his office suggested that Rev. Jackson's credibility and the African-American community was damaged due to this issue, and that he was merely seeking publicity.

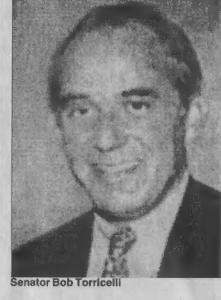
Rev. Jackson requested a meeting for April 3 with Torricelli in New Brunswick, but the senator could not attend, and sent a letter that tried to make amends. "My office simply does not have positions by rank," Torricelli says in his letter. "From (Deputy Chief of Staff) Keith (Rochford) and (Deputy Director of Legislative Correspondence) Pennell (Brice)...you can see that I have African Americans in senior positions of a policy-making nature." Jackson says that while he does acknowledge these and the other six African Americans on his staff, and express pride in them, none are in top positions where they have policy-making access to the Senator.

The Council is not interested in a fight with the Senator," Jackson told the audience. "In fact...Congressman Torricelli is now Senator Torricelli today because many folk in this room went back to their congregation and their

communities and urged our folk to support him because we thought he was the best candidate...But we also believe that African



Rev Reginald Jackson



Senator Bob Torricelli

Americans can no longer continue to deliver the vote, to divide the pie...and settle for See TORRICELLI/WAFFLES/page 10

City News Most Influential honors Tuskegee Airmen, Tony Brown

More than 100 corporate, community, religious, education, and political leaders will be honored for their community building efforts to make a difference in New Jersey urban centers.

NEWARK—Leading an initiative to build a sense of community in urban centers and recognizing individuals and corporations making a difference, City News, New Jersey's leading African-American newspaper and A-Team, will host the Newark City News 100 Most Influential which will be held May 1 at the Newark Airport Marriott Hotel.

"One of the most important challenges before us as a State and nation is to rebuild our urban communities," says Dr. Henry Johnson, publisher of City News. "We initiated the City News 100 Most Influential to help create a new energy to bring people together in the interest of rebuilding urban communities. Every citizen must come to understand the importance of strengthening the cities in order



Tony Brown
to strengthen the economic and social base of New Jersey. We must all work vigorously to See CITY NEWS HONORS/page 10

1996 Six-month crime statistics show decline

Overall crime index down eight percent

KEARNY—Overall crime dropped eight percent for the first six months of last year and violent crime dropped nine percent. Governor Whitman and Attorney General Peter Veneno announced today in releasing New Jersey's preliminary 1996 Uniform Crime Report.

"Today we pleased to announce that we are making important progress in our fight against crime," said Governor Whitman, who was also joined in the announcement by Col. Carl A. Williams, Superintendent of State Police and representatives of New Jersey's law enforcement community and local government. "We have enacted tough crime laws to make our streets safer. And the statistics released today show a downward trend in almost every crime category—and across almost every area of our state."

In reporting preliminary reductions in the three major crime categories—overall crime (8%), violent crime (-9%) and non-violent crime

(-8%), the law enforcement officials noted that the six month figure offer encouragement for the overall 1996 crime report. The preliminary statistics prepared by the New Jersey State Police Uniform Crime Reporting Unit, report the statewide crime index for various categories of crime, including urban, suburban and rural crime, arson, domestic violence, and bias crime.

The six month report is compiled by State Police statisticians from crime statistics and information supplied by New Jersey's 481 police departments, four part-time municipal police departments and the State Police (reporting for 74 municipalities with out local police services).

Only county data are released as part of the six month report. Municipality by municipality data are not released until the State Police's full year-end Uniform Crime Report is issued.

for any state initiative to be reviewed by a three-judge panel instead of a single judge.

"This is the exact issue that prompted the introduction of H.R. 1170, and that is the ability of state federal judges to hold in hostage the will of millions of Americans," said Frank Cullen Jr., a spokesman for Bono.

Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Hatch, R-Utah, said the court had made a statement with which "few would disagree" and announced his own plans for legislation.

Denouncing Bono for "willful imposition of his own personal agenda," Hatch said he and several other committee members are drafting a measure to "limit the ability of individual federal district judges to invalidate state initiatives or referenda."

Judge accused of "thwarting the people's will" with injunction against 209

Judge argues injunction based on constitutionality of Proposition 209

tional, Henderson's decision served to remind the people that "they must govern themselves according to principles of their own choosing," the court said, referring to the Constitution.

But if Henderson was wrong, his decision "operates to thwart the will of the people in most literal sense," said Judge Diarmuid O'Scannlain in the 3-0 appellate ruling. "What the people of California willed to do is virtually impossible, if not the authority, of any decision by an individual judge to thwart a voter initiative."

The last sentence quickly found its way into news releases by Gov. Pete Wilson and Attorney General Dan Lungren and virtually every media account of the ruling. It seemed as though the court was questioning the propriety, if not the authority, of any decision by an individual judge to thwart a voter initiative.

The impression created by the court's language is "enormously troubling," said Erwin Chemerinsky, a University of Southern California law professor who opposes Proposition 209.

"What I teach students from the first day of constitutional law is that if a law is unconstitutional, it's the responsibility of courts to invalidate it even if it's favored by 250 million people," Chemerinsky said.

Henderson, replying to arguments both in and out of court that he should defer to the people, wrote that the issue was not whether one judge can thwart the people's will but whether the measure complied with the Constitution. The appeals court said Henderson "no doubt...is correct, at least in theory."

If Proposition 209 is actually unconstitutional,

professor at McGeorge School of Law, said he believed the court was trying to relate to public frustration but may have unintentionally pushed gasoline on the flames.

"It's trying to communicate that it appreciates the confusion and resentment the public feels when popular initiatives are declared unconstitutional," Kelso said.

He said O'Scannlain was not exempting initiatives from judicial review, merely advising caution. But Kelso said the court appeared to have chosen its language deliberately and must have known it was "going to be picked up."

Both professors said the statement was sure to be cited in support of a bill by Bono, R-Calif., that would require federal lawsuits

against any state initiative to be reviewed by a three-judge panel instead of a single judge.

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NAACP outraged by Prop. 209 ruling

SAN FRANCISCO—A 3-0 decision by Republican-appointed to the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals upheld California's Proposition 209 that禁止在种族和性别方面的歧视。

The decision sweeps aside an injunction by US District Judge Thelton Henderson and if the ruling stands, the law would take effect in December.

NAACP President & CEO Kweisi Mfume released a statement concerning the matter.

"The NAACP is disappointed and angered by today's ruling in California. The NAACP calls upon the State Assembly and the State Senate of California to move toward balancing the disparities left in the wake of this ruling."

It is not hard to find evidence that discrimination is still prevalent in America. Whether it is the 77,292 complaints of discrimination that are backlog at the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, a consistently higher unemployment rate among minorities, recent discrimination claims at Texaco and Avis or the continuing discrimination against women recently documented by the Glass Ceiling Commission; discrimination is still, regrettably, a major problem.

We are hopeful that an appeal to the full Circuit Court of Appeals would be successful, and we will also seek out elected officials in the state of California to work with us in order to craft legislation to overturn this recent court decision, if necessary."

Community Calendar

EVERY SATURDAY

PLAINFIELD—Indoor Flea Market, Downtown area. For more information, call 908-989-2663.

THROUGH MAY 1

MONTCLAIR—The Urban League is offering a free home ownership course for people who want to purchase a home. Graduates will earn a certificate that will help them qualify for a mortgage. 5 weeks, 6:30 pm at Urban League of Essex County. For more information, call 201-624-9535.

APRIL 29, MAY 6, 13

EDISON—JFK Medical Center is offering the "I Can Cope" educational series, a four week program for cancer patients, their families, and friends. For more information, call 908-321-7765.

THROUGH MAY 2

SOMERVILLE—Priming classes for children six through nine at the Priming Council. For more information, call 908-725-2110.

APRIL 29

JERSEY CITY—Jersey City State College will offer a preparation course for the NJ Real Estate Salesperson's (Agent) Licensing Examination on Saturdays 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. on the JCSC campus at 2039 Kennedy Blvd. For further information call (201) 200-3083.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16

PLAINFIELD—Family story time with Postal storyteller John Lasne, author of the anti-drug "Red Ribbon Story"

Thursday, APRIL 17

NEW YORK—18th Annual Scientific Meeting at the New York University Medical Center. For more information, call 908-235-0062.

PLAINFIELD—Young People's Film Program at the Public Library. For more information, call 908-757-1111.

JOIN THE MEN OF "GLORY" African-American Civil War Reenactors

Enjoy conveying history and portraying the African-American military contribution to the Civil War era. Become a "Civil War Reenactor" of Color with the 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry.

Contact Leon Vaughan at 201-566-0356 or write to 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry P.O. Box 895, East Orange, NJ 07019.



PEOPLE

Church unites sisters

NEWARK—Mother Clara Johnson, 82, of Newark, died on April 11. She was a sister to Mother Clara Guy, from First Zion Baptist Church, and Mother Annie Mae Moss from Metropolitan Baptist Church, all 92 years old, were honored Saturday at Union Baptist for their 92nd birthday. Mother Johnson recently has been reunited after seven years with her sister, Mother Margaret Allen, 93, living in New York.



Mother Clara Johnson

Celebrating 50 Years of Service



In honor of those fifty years of service Gamma Zeta received a Proclamation for service. From the office of Mayor Sharpe James of Newark, New Jersey, naming February 1997 as "Alpha Kappa Alpha Day in Newark, New Jersey." The five members of Gamma Zeta, Zeta Afica Barnes, Ayasha Cross, Kristin Riddick, Nicole Hines and Jessica Morrison all students at Rutgers University working with determination and the knowledge of their history work to help Gamma Zeta Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated see another fifty years.

Gamma Zeta Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated, celebrated its 50th anniversary as New Jersey's oldest undergraduate chapter. The chapter commemorated 50 years of service in the Essex County area, by hosting their state's Founders' Day Luncheon. This event was held on Saturday, February 22, 1997 at the Newark Airport Marriott with the theme, "Looking Back to Move Ahead."

Guest speakers included from the Board of Directors of the Newark Public Library, founding member Josephine Jaeger, retired Essex County educator, visionary Ella Rainey, and business executive, former member Lamya Clarke. All members of Beta Alpha Omega chapter whose president, Melody McGowan Parker and vice president, Winifred Waldon were in attendance.

Gamma Zeta Chapter president

in Newark, Gamma Zeta Chapter was the first undergraduate chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated in New Jersey. The main focus of the chapter has always been service to the Newark community. For nearly 50 years, Gamma Zeta has exemplified the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. motto, "Service Above Self." Gamma Zeta has worked in conjunction with the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC), sponsored voter registration drives at NJIT and Rutgers Newark College campuses, cohosted with the Essex County Arts Council performances by the New Jersey Tap Ensemble and the Dance Theater of Harlem, volunteered for the United Negro College Fund (UNCF) Telethon, co-hosted seasonal celebrations for the patients of The United Hospital Medical Center and made visits to the Pediatrics Ward of United Hospitals Medical

Weekly Horoscope

ARIES: (March 21-April 20)

If you insist on perfection you will be in for considerable frustration. Be willing to relax your rather unreasonable standards, not everyone in your circle will live up to those expectations, no matter how hard they try.

T AURUS: (April 21 - May 21)

There are changes that need to be made at home. Even though your suggestions may not be met with enthusiasm, go ahead anyway, in the long run you'll be glad you pushed. Take time out for yourself, it is essential to your peace of mind.

GEMINI: (May 22 - June 21)

Outcomes may be altered, due to unexpected situations that arise. Nip your ego in the bud and behave with courtesy and compassion at work, more will get accomplished this way instead of playing dictator. Act from your heart and not your head with love.

CANCER: (June 22 - July 23)

A feeling of isolation may overtake you, so make the effort to reach out and touch someone. Relationship issues need to be attended to, so state your needs clearly. If you are feeling stuck at work, hang in there and the solution will appear with little effort at all.

LEO: (July 24 - August 23)

Don't let your ego get the best of you, inducing you to do something really too risky at this point. If you want to advance at work, the time may not be quite right yet. You may experience an awakening in the near future which will affect your attitude.

VIRGO: (August 24 - September 23)

Due to a stunning success in business, or if your love life is improving, you feel like you're sitting on top of the world. Enjoy it! You don't have to give up anything just because things are finally going your way for a change. Strive for the best.

LIBRA: (September 24 - October 23)

Some negative feelings may arise during the week, from issues about trust and betrayal. There is more than hope, there is a real opportunity for success, but only if you are willing to embrace current changes with an open mind. Be willing to listen to others' ideas.

SCORPIO: (October 24 - November 22)

Continue to insist on quality and honesty in all of your dealings, especially in issues close to your heart. Do remember in all your interactions with others that the absolute truth is quite hard to come by. You have only your personal truth and limited perspective to work with.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 23 - December 21)

Concerning your love life this week, pay attention to sexual attractions and go for someone who is safe and kind. Push yourself to the limit, for you will only kick yourself later if you fail to accomplish that which is within your grasp. Don't let soul searching get out of hand.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 - January 20)

Something extravagant this week. Although money is usually associated with this activity, time could be your biggest commodity. Take some time for yourself. Harmony at home will bring you a great deal of satisfaction. Review your investments to see if returns can be better.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 - February 19)

It's time to talk about your need for independence within your closest relationships. Listen carefully to those words of love, and try to read between the lines. There are a number of things which you can't do alone. If help is not on the way, do the best you can and rest the rest for later.

PISCES: (February 20 - March 20)

Remove your emotional armor if you really want to get through to someone. With such a willingness to show your own vulnerability, no one will feel that they can trust you. The feelings that you have for someone right now are kept secret, you'll have to change that.

THE WEEK IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: Most think of you as courageous and willing to jump into everything you do with zest and optimism. And you do tend to plunge into risk and dangers that others fear. This trait is definitely oboe concerning your career advancement, and sometimes in the romance department.

Members of off-off-Broadway production guest speakers at JCSC

Members of the off-off-Broadway production, "On the Block," a musical revue with multiple personalities that has toured throughout the

United States, were the guest speakers at a recent session of the Jersey City State College class, "The Musical on Broadway and Hollywood."



JCSC graduate student Peter Smith (left) of Orange, a theater at Lincoln School in Newark engaged in an animated conversation with (from left) Don Arrington who wrote the music, lyrics, and script; percussionist Rick Cutler; Camille Tibaldo who contributed to the script; and pianist Susan Lampert. Mr. Arrington and Ms. Tibaldo star in "On the Block."



Newark Mayor Sharpe James and Irvington Mayor Sara Bost and their top administrative staff recently toured the neighborhoods bordering both their cities in an effort to put out a cooperative plan to improve the area. The tour was organized by Newark Rev. Dr. Martin, pastor of Unity Freedom Baptist Church. Discussing the tour from left are: Newark Police Director Joseph Santiago, Mayor James, Rev. Martin, Mayor Bost, and Irvington Police Director Steven Palma.

Black journalists offer \$2,000 in college scholarships

TRENTON—April 14, 1992—The Garden State Association of Black Journalists invites African-American high school students interested in pursuing careers in journalism to compete for two college scholarships worth \$1,000 each.

Application forms have been sent to high school journalism teachers, community organizations and association members throughout the state. The application deadline is May 1.

Applicants must submit: a nominating letter from their school adviser, dean or teacher familiar with their work, a one-page autobiography, ex-

plaining career goals and journalistic activities, such as work on school publications, internships and writing awards. All entries will be type-set and double-spaced.

Materials will be judged on writing ability, originality and potential to succeed in a journalism career.

Winners will be notified by June 6. Scholarships will be presented at a special reception.

The Garden State Association of Black Journalists is an nine-year-old organization of print and broadcast journalists and media professionals who live or work in New Jersey.

EDITORIAL

Race Matters

Last week, California's Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals upheld Proposition 209, the ballot measure curtailing state affirmative action programs. Supporters of the initiative often quote Martin Luther King Jr., saying a person should be judged by their character, not their color, as though color is no longer a factor in America.

Just last week, however, a story in a major daily reported that the segregation in public school is rising at the fastest rate since the 1954 ruling in *Brown v. Board of Education*. Whites are simply abandoning schools with large minority populations, and those schools are now suffering from malign neglect. There is also the recently released videotape of a Philadelphia prosecutor, then-District Attorney John Lisi, telling his fellow prosecutors ten years ago about tailoring trials so that they would be biased against convictions. Another New York paper had the nerve to write an editorial first deplored the prosecutor's incumbent opponent "playing the race card" by releasing the tape, then suggests the prosecutor was right, pointing to the OJ criminal trial as an example of black jury bias. One need only to recall the discrimination cases against Texaco, Denny's, Avis, and other corporations that have been in the news lately. One also needs to read this edition of the *City News* and find stories about the bias in the cable industry, as well as the racial unrest in a Philadelphia suburb.

All this makes it clear that affirmative action is still needed. While its opponents claim that race is irrelevant today, there is substantial evidence that race is still a major factor in America.

What's in a Name? African-American or Multiracial?

By Dr. Manning Marable

The most important thing any oppressed people can do for themselves is to define who they are. Identity begins with naming yourself, in finding your own voice. This is the reason that "names" have always been significant.

In slavery, the white oppressors sought to destroy our culture, to deny us our memories and traditions as an African people. In Jim Crow segregation, white racists hurled epithets like "nigger" at us, to destroy and to belittle us. In successive generations, black people have asserted themselves and our unique identities by what we have called ourselves. And through that evolution of names from colored, Negro, black and African American, we have endeavored to speak to our own identity.

Today, there are some people in the Federal government who favor the creation of a new name to redefine many Americans of African descent, as well as other racialized minorities: "multiracial."

At the present time, the Federal government uses only four classifications to define "race" in the United States: black, white, Asian or Pacific Islander, and American Indian. There are also two "ethnic" categories, Hispanic and non-Hispanic, who may be either black or white. There are many problems with this system of classification. People who have very different histories, incomes, educational and social opportunities are lumped together in an undifferentiated category. Does it make any sense to classify Japanese Americans, whose median household income is higher than that of Euro-Americans, as being in the same category as native Hawaiians, Filipinos or Cambodians, whose average income is well below that of African Americans? Do we to do what comes from Argentina, Uruguay and Chile have anything in common with black Dominicans and Puerto Ricans, besides speaking Spanish?

As bad as the present system of race/ethnic classification is, some

government bureaucrats want to go from "bad to worse." In 1996, the Census Bureau conducted a four-month survey of 18,000 households which asked respondents to identify themselves by race and ethnic background. One of the categories was the category "multiracial." This study found that only one percent of all people questioned identified themselves as "multiracial." The group that identified itself as Asian or Pacific Islander declined to identify themselves as all respondents. A smaller but significant percentage of blacks and Hispanics also identified themselves as "multiracial."

Why do some people of color want to switch their racial categorization? Dr. Robert H. Hill, director of the Institute for Urban Research at Morgan State University and chairman of the Census Bureau's Advisory Committee on the African-American population, explained to the New York Times: "People who have been pushing that want something to emphasize the racial component, the black component. They say they are multiracial, which means I am black or somehow I can have a way of not having to check myself black."

The larger political implications of the "multiracial" designation are profound. How do you determine compliance with affirmative action and equal opportunity programs with goals and timetables, when the size of specific racial groups is uncertain? How do you design a legislative district to reflect "multiracial" interests and representation? Should "multiracial" benefit from the same scholarships as others, and advocate their own policy agenda distinct from that of blacks, Latinos and other racialized minorities?

What's in a name? Technically, approximately 80 percent of all black Americans have some mixed ethnic and/or interracial heritage. Perhaps one of half have some Native American ancestry. Maybe all African Americans need to check the "multiracial" box next time they are asked to identify their race. If we cannot eliminate this dangerous category, at least we can make it absurd and meaningless by all claiming it. Somehow, the Census Bureau needs to be taught that blackness is not a biological or genetic category. Black identity is a culture, a heritage, a tradition of struggle, not a racial designation.

Now he shows a different personal character, one that is a privilege for him to have. He is a good man, and stands by his way of reform. His voice silences the voice of people without power or privilege or the right to pay the going rates at the White House gates.

But in light of his behavior since January 1993, I have come to believe the President has misspoke himself.

Now he shows a different personal character, one that is a privilege for him to have. He is a good man, and stands by his way of reform. His voice silences the voice of people without power or privilege or the right to pay the going rates at the White House gates.

In the campaign finance disgrace raging in Washington, there emerged a Presidential character for whom higher education, Baptist upbringing and the best connections in the world have not made an ethical life. It reveals a person whose word to the people fails in the heat of desire to ascend to the presidency. And it reveals one who, having reached the pinnacle of power and finished his final campaign, casts aside any pretense of being for the people.

The first lesson in March, President Clinton's policies cut out food stamps for the poor without creating jobs for people whose families have not worked for generations, people who were encouraged by social policy to stay on welfare, and who have neither job skills nor job-finding skills.

The President, like no one else, had the power to stop campaign finance wrongdoing.

Since he knew the system was corrupt, he could have used his bully pulpit to expose it. Why didn't he use it? Why didn't he expose the bad money that was paying for policy in Congress and the White House, past and present? Why didn't he speak repeatedly, drive out corruption and drive down the cost of policy? Why didn't he insist that his people, includ-

OPINION

Revitalizing our cities

By Gov. Christine Todd Whitman

Whenever I think of our New Jersey cities, I think of the many courageous men and women determined to restore their neighborhoods to what they once were. I think of the people who live, work, and raise families there - people who deserve economic opportunity, good schools and safe streets.

I have seen that centralized government has disenfranchised neighborhoods and families by giving them no voice in how billions of dollars are spent in their behalf. That is why my administration has taken a different approach, one that helps people help their neighbors and empowers people in charge of their own destiny.

Our approach unites community, residents, government and the private sector in partnerships to revitalize cities, create jobs, promote home ownership, and improve schools.

At the beginning of my term, we established an Urban Coordinating Council (UCC) to help people in cities develop and implement neighborhood revitalization plans. Along with the new Office of Neighborhood Empowerment and the Department of Community Affairs, the UCC is assisting residents in places like Elizabeth, Trenton, New Brunswick, Newark and Camden. As long as there are concerned people in our cities, we'll be there to work with them.

We've also started the Fund for Community Economic Development,

Over the next five years the Fund will make available a total of \$30 billion in state and private resources for economic development in urban centers. The Fund will be used by community economic development organizations for loans, micro-enterprises and small business development, and for "equity" for bank financing. It will also enhance real estate development projects, like community centers.

Last year, we created the New Jersey Redevelopment Authority (NRA). The NRA will focus exclusively on economic development in cities. The Authority has \$9 million available for small business loans, and it can issue up to \$100 million in bonds for eligible projects.

In 1996, we expanded the state's award-winning Urban Enterprise Zone (UEZ) program, adding seven more zones for a total of statewide. In total, UEZ jobs have generated more than 39,000 jobs and \$6 billion in private investment.

Our Business Employment Incentive Program, which also began last year, provides grants to businesses expanding or relocating in New Jersey based on the amount of personal income tax their new employees are expected to pay the state. Urban businesses that create at least 25 new full-time jobs in urban areas are eligible to participate in this program.

At the same time that we have expanded economic opportunity for urban citizens, we have also improved access to safe, affordable housing for buyers and renters. My \$700 million

housing program has helped thousands of families become homeowners or renters in good, affordable housing. Every time we help another hard-working family realize the American dream in a city home, we add to our urban strength and the long-term prosperity of our state.

At the beginning of the Urban Enterprise Recovery Program, we have provided \$425 million for new construction financing and, by the end of the year, will have created over 2,250 new homes. In addition, another 200 families will become homeowners because of our "Too Good, But It's True" mortgage program, which provides no-money-down, 5% interest mortgages for first-time homebuyers in eleven urban areas.

This program has enabled people like Frances Brooks, a single working mother who had been renting a small two bedroom apartment with her two children, to buy a mortgage payment that is less than what she used to pay for rent.

It's not enough, of course, to give families a safe place to live in an environment that encourages learning. So we're no longer going to measure education by how many dollars we spend — we're going to measure it by how much our children learn.

We've developed a set of core curriculum standards that are rigorous and demanding. We're going to test children periodically on what they've learned, and we're going to force school districts to change to participate in this program.

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they spend your money if the students aren't learning.

What we are doing is pursuing an exciting experiment with 17 charter schools - the majority in urban centers - which allow parents, teachers and other community members to design innovative approaches to teaching the core curriculum.

Since the beginning of my administration, the state's 30 urban districts have received \$5.6 billion, and our new funding plan will provide an increase of \$136 million in the 1997-98 school year.

And so, that every student has access to the best and brightest teachers and provides them with a new distance-learning network. This innovation will let students in Paterson see how a farm operates in Warren County and students in Atlantic City take part in an experiment at the Liberty Science Center without leaving their classroom.

Last but not least, we've recognized that children in some communities often need a head start before entering school. So, our new funding formula provides funding for important programs like pre-school and full-day kindergarten.

Our education policy is giving neighborhoods and families a new sense of optimism. I am determined and committed to make state government a partner in helping families in our cities reclaim their neighborhoods and their schools for their children.

You Should Demand Penal Reforms

By Leah Smith

Bill A-1541 is presently pending in Legislature. This bill, if passed, will continue to perpetuate the excess imprisonment of African American people, especially males. It will cause the building of more prisons or juvenile delinquency facilities, with no type of rehabilitative programs being encouraged or given.

It will continue to warehouse men longer, (there is already a mandatory minimum sentence requirement in effect) and give them nothing during their prison stay to bring about any reform or change of character. It will not allow them to earn money to contribute to the pan of corrections to offer an opportunity for rehabilitation. It is a continued assault on the Black family, that is already fragile.

It was stated by Ellen Barry, of San Francisco, who heads the National Network for Women in Prison, "You

can have whatever opinion that you want about how people should be treated for their offenses, but we're creating monsters."

We must oppose this bill, and not let you who would write and call the names below and voice your opposition to this bill. Furthermore, we ask that you would also demand that the department of "corrections" do what their name suggest, offer rehabilitative services to the men and women that are locked up in this state.

families. "Today, more than 1 million children have parents spending time in federal or state prisons or local jails," says the National Council on Crime and Justice, (NCCJ), 3197.

This situation creates communities with no men, women with no mates and young males with no appropriate male images. It is a continued assault on the Black family, that is already fragile.

Recidivism is high, because all programs to impact positive life style changes have been virtually eliminated. Building more prisons isn't the answer. Locking people up longer is not the answer. It creates an ecological imbalance in the communities. This is presently being felt, and will continue to escalate as time goes on.

Keeping people locked up longer, especially when nothing can do any real justice and guarantee that there will be high recidivism. This situation probably occurs because 90% of the men in jails are African American. And what better way to insure less competition for jobs and other opportunities that this society makes available in limited quantities???

Tax payers and voters should de-

mand that these facilities encourage rehabilitation by offering programs to help people learn a skill or trade, get a job. We have Professional Counseling Programs, andquip them to re-enter society.

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Please contact Assemblywoman Diane Allen and Gov. Whitman your opposition to this bill, and the need for more emphasis to be placed on preventing rather than on opportunity for the transformation that is a desire to benefit from these opportunities. Also, set up programs to encourage rehabilitation by making it mandatory for prisoners to get high school diplomas, job skills, life skills, Counseling sessions and other such classes.

Research indicates that the majority of people who are arrested are scheduled to parole within 5 to 10 years. Therefore, it behoves the policy makers of this state to address these concerns, and that the building of more prisons isn't the answer. This is the best for our communities to do, once they are locked up.

Smith is the Secretary of the Advocates for Children & Families of the Incarcerated. To contact her, write to PO Box 713, Green Brook, NJ 08812-0713.

ing the Vice President, refuse to take back food stamps.

As the poor were banished from the White House and from its agenda, news reports said millions of dollars were set aside for President Clinton and for the millions of Americans who were returning to senders because the taking of the money broke Federal election laws. A President who swore in two inaugurations to the first time, the new President said we have come to change the character of government for the better.

"Let us resolve," he said, "to reform our politics so that power and privilege no longer shout down the voice of the people."

But in light of his behavior since January 1993, I have come to believe the President has misspoke himself.

Now he shows a different personal character, one that is a privilege for him to have. He is a good man, and stands by his way of reform. His voice silences the voice of people without power or privilege or the right to pay the going rates at the White House gates.

It is a great tragedy when an education at Yale and Georgetown, and Oxford, England seems not to make a difference, for the better, in a Man's ethics and social responsibility.

It is a tragedy that voters trusted Bill Clinton when he was a presidential candidate. Wanting to believe he was a good man—despite public accounts of his character—they did not fully scrutinize his qualifications.

He had been a poor boy—and some could identify with this—from one of the poorest states in the Union. He had made no inventions or discoveries for America, contributed no great ideas to the country. He had not served in the military or the Peace Corps.

But the country gave generously to him, raising him from a poor boy to aspire to the presidency. And the people elected him with the leadership of their country. And he betrayed that trust.

He failed the children by abusing the high privilege given him and by failing to set a good example for other boys and girls who will never have such high privilege, and the worst tragedy of all is, he knows better.

"Americans deserve better," the President said in that first inaugural speech. They deserve something better than "a place of intrigue and calculation," he said about the nation's capital, where "powerful people can do whatever they want, especially about who is in and who is out, who is up and who is down, forgetting those people whose toll and sweat sends us here and paves our way."

He said, "We must offer more opportunity to all and demand responsibility from all."

And so, America, having given President Clinton great opportunity, must now demand his responsibility.

By Carolyn Bennett, Ph.D.

The campaign finance wrongs of the "multiracial" designation are profound. How do you determine compliance with affirmative action and equal opportunity programs with goals and timetables, when the size of specific racial groups is uncertain? How do you design a legislative district to reflect "multiracial" interests and representation? Should "multiracial" benefit from the same scholarships as others, and advocate their own policy agenda distinct from that of blacks, Latinos and other racialized minorities?

Thus, they will be sent back to our communities probably worse than they were when they first entered institutions of correction. This is, of course, counterproductive to children and

near the White House protesting the cutoff of food stamps.

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opportunity to all and demand responsibility from all."

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Since he knew the system was corrupt, he could have used his bully pulpit to expose it. Why didn't he use it?

Why didn't he expose the bad money that was paying for policy in Congress and the White House, past and present? Why didn't he speak repeatedly, drive out corruption and drive down the cost of policy? Why didn't he insist that his people, includ-

they spend your money if the students aren't learning.

What we are doing is pursuing an exciting experiment with 17 charter schools - the majority in urban centers - which allow parents, teachers and other community members to design innovative approaches to teaching the core curriculum.

Since the beginning of my adminis-

tration, the state's 30 urban districts have received \$5.6 billion, and our new funding plan will provide an increase of \$136 million in the 1997-98 school year.

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It's Time for teens to get serious about AIDS

by Rev. Martin D. Odom

About a week ago I was sitting in the church office doing some work when a young man walked in. I did not recognize him as a member of the church and from first appearances he looked to be living on the streets. I asked him how I could help him and he asked me to have a word of prayer with him. I responded that I would and asked him what was his prayer need. He began to cry and was he had AIDS in the eyes and said that he had AIDS and he did not have any friends.

I wish that there was more that I could have done for that young man. He looked about thirty years old. What I really wish is that someone would have had an opportunity to talk to him about the possible risks of HIV infection at 15 years old. And as much as I would like to place the blame on the government or irresponsible entertainers or the media, ultimately the reality for young people today is that we have to be responsible for our own behavior and its' consequences. Every teenager alive should want to be an expert on HIV, how it is contracted and how it can be prevented. The reason we all need to become experts

ourselves is so that we cannot be misled or misinformed by anyone concerning HIV infection. I was very disturbed by the recent EBONY magazine cover which talked about Magic Johnson being healed by the Lord. Just looking at the cover

it gives young people the impression that Mr. Johnson no longer has the HIV virus and that he was some

how miraculously cured. It was dis

turbing because it sends a message to

young people that you can in

fact live dangerously but don't worry

about it because Magic Johnson got

cured. That is simply not the case,

and it was certainly not one of

EBONY's most responsible examples of news coverage. EBONY is not responsible for protecting you from HIV, you are.

Teenagers, if you have not already begun to educate yourself about HIV then the time for you to begin is now. Don't wait until you discover that you or a friend or relative is infected to gain some information that can save your life. At St. Matthew A.M.E. Church, part of our AIDS ministry includes a Teen AIDS Prevention unit which educates teenagers in the church and community about HIV infection. These teenagers become certified peer educators who

are responsible for conducting workshops to help other teenagers learn more about AIDS. If you are interested or know some teenagers who would be interested in participating in the Teen AIDS Prevention unit then contact the church and we will put you in touch with the coordinator.

God has big plans for the hip hop generation, let us not ruin them by being poor stewards of the healthy minds and bodies with which we have been blessed. Instead let us educate ourselves and take our lives and our futures seriously by becoming informed, responsible teenagers who live so that we may be used by God.

Self-acceptance and self-love key for good human relations

By Michael A. Grant, J.D.
Special to the NNPA

Perfection in this life is not an attainable goal. Living a fulfilled life with much contentment or peace of mind is, therefore, why agonize over the former when you can enjoy the latter?

It is so important that we accept ourselves as we are and that we learn to really love not merely indulge ourselves. We need several things.

First is self-acceptance. Walter Cronkite, the celebrated news anchor, would conclude his daily chronicling of newsworthy events with an empathetic: "And that's the way it is." To quote Dr. Carl Rogers, "I challenge you to take an honest look at yourself, your strengths, your weaknesses, your good judgments, your fiascoes, your kind gestures, and your

outbursts of anger and simply state: "And this is the way I am."

You may not be perfect but you are perfectly you. One of over 5,000,000,000 inhabitants on this small planet rotating in infinite space, you are unique in your own way.

Seeing yourself flaws and all and telling yourself that you accept who and what you are is mentally healthy and an important ingredient in your search for a formula for happiness.

Accepting yourself is not tantamount to condoning undesirable behavior. Nor is acceptance necessarily approving. Acceptance is acknowledging the reality of who you are at this point in your personal development.

Why is self-acceptance so important? Because you get to decide a true with yourself. Your inner walls of resistance come down.

All of that wasted psychic energy

can now be rechanneled for more positive thinking, more constructive feeling, and more fulfilled living.

Some of the harshest judgments that we pass, we pass on ourselves. "I should have done this" or "I should have done that" or "I should have been a stupid." "I can never forgive myself for what I did."

If we start to listen to that nonstop conversation that goes on inside our heads, we become painfully aware that we are not accepting the reality of our frail humanity. Once we accept ourselves, forgive ourselves, and shift our focus onto what it is we want to accomplish with our lives, guilt, shame, low self-esteem and a sense that somehow we just do not measure up to some unachievable ideal, are replaced with a newfound inner peace.

In addition, accepting ourselves as we are is a necessary predicate for accepting others as they are. And the

benefits of this new awareness can be incalculable.

We human beings desperately want to be accepted as we are. Much of our self-worth and sense of belonging are inextricably intertwined with the desire of acceptance that we receive from others especially significant others.

Acceptance of ourselves and others is a prelude to more harmonious human relations.

Now, what about self-love? NeoFreudian, Dr. Eric Fromm, one wrote: "Love is the active concern for the growth and development of the beloved." Apply this definition to the way you feel about and ultimately treat yourself.

Testing how much, you really do love yourself (not to be confused with being sick of yourself), would you answer the following questions?

1. Do you find time, everyday, to do something large or small that pleases you?

2. Do you allow others to place demands on your energy and resources when you would rather say no?

3. Do you forgive yourself for the mistakes that you make?

4. Do you allow anger to fester like a sore inside you or to erupt like a volcano? (Note: Most intense feelings of anger especially if the anger is prolonged is usually directed at ourselves.) And please be forewarned that protracted, intense anger has been associated with heart attacks, ulcers, and other threatening physical conditions.

5. Do you actively pursue your

greatest interests?

6. Do you allow family members or friends to continuously make comments about you that leave you feeling diminished, overused, or essential?

7. Do you allow yourself to express your true feelings with individuals or within a group or do you feel that you must "go along to get along?"

8. Do you take good care of your body or is it treated like a dumping ground for toxic waste?

9. What do you tell yourself about your abilities and what you are entitled to receive from life?

10. How long do you endure unpleasant situations and people before you decide to choose a better place or more enjoyable space?

11. Typically, during the course of a day, how often do you laugh?

Like self-acceptance, self-love is the starting point for living life at its best.

To use the analogy of concentric circles, like those seen when you toss a pebble into a lake, our deepest feelings for ourselves radiate out to others.

In Karmic fashion, we consciously listen to your own thoughts about yourself. If you choose a more positive approach with you, this old troubled world will not only not get you down, but you will soon find that when you are with others you will feel lighter, when combined with the light of others like you, will help to stamp out much of the darkness that characterizes human relations on our shrinking planet.

PrayUSA! appeals for prayer for revival in America!

April 1997 has been designated PrayUSA!, 30-days of prayer and fasting for the United States. PrayUSA! is a partnership of denominational and other national prayer ministries, churches, and parachurch groups acting together to mobilize prayer and fasting throughout the whole Church for revival and spiritual awakening in America. Chaired by Steve Bell of Concerned Prayer International, co-chaired by Eddie Smith of The US PRAYER TRACK, PrayUSA! is a Mission America prayer initiative.

On April 27, the last Sunday in April, pastors will lead their churches in a "national day of repentence" or solemn assembly. PrayUSA! will minister in the National Day of Prayer (May 1) and March for Jesus (May 17) activities. Christians will be offered an array of prayer possibilities, as well as a 30-day prayer calendar. They will also be furnished with resource information. Those interested in prayerwalking will be directed to one resource ministry; while those interested in having a neighborhood house of prayer will be directed to another.

A major focus is to mobilize intercessors to pray on-site at one of many pre-scheduled "spiritual sites" identified and recommended by George Oitis, Jr. and The Sentinel Group. These teams of intercessors will travel to various locations throughout the nation to fast, to pray, and to repeat for sins committed that may have given advantage to the enemy.

C. Peter Wager and the United Prayer Track of AD2000 & Beyond will be requesting intercessors worldwide to fast and pray during April for revival and spiritual awakening in America.

books to start or expand anti-crime programs.

Rivers said he is seeking \$25 million from public and private sources to help push the program beyond its Boston base. The first cities for expansion include Philadelphia, Louisville, Ky.; Atlanta, Ga.; and Tampa, Fla. Rivers said.

The project is modeled after Boston's Ten Point Coalition, which began five years ago in response to escalating black-on-black violence.

The coalition is a network of churches that reaches out to violent youths with mentors, counseling, drop-in centers and work programs. It closely works with city and law enforcement officials and businesses.

The project is credited with contributing to a 39 percent decrease in Boston's homicide rate from 1995 to 1996 and bringing further progress so far in 1997.

"We are about the business of bringing the impossible into the realm of possibility," said the Rev. Jeffrey Brown, a Boston minister and coalition member.

Asked what happened to drug-selling young people confronted by the church workers, Rivers said some continued to play their trade at different locations but added "some got saved."

The notion of church-based projects to combat violence in America has picked up steam recently.

In February, Christian Coalition leader Ralph Reed announced an urban outreach program called "The Samaritan Project." The plan would have volunteer families take up residence in poor urban areas to help people there.

Rivers said he was challenging Reed and other white Christian leaders to "move beyond platitudes and sound bites."

"We need a new conversation," Rivers said. "We need them to put material resources on the table to help and move beyond the rhetoric."

Black churches launch national urban effort to reclaim lost youth

By Paul Shepard
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — A national coalition of black ministers plans to fight black-on-black crime and street drug-dealing by creating a church-based program designed with help to bring law enforcement to Boston.

"We have a generation of de facto orphans now drowning in their own blood," said the Rev. Eugene F. Rivers, a Boston pastor and co-founder of the new National Ten Point Leadership Foundation. "We must mobilize in defense of our own future."

At a news conference Tuesday, Rivers joined with ministers from Philadelphia, Louisville, Ky., and New York to announce the expansion of the Boston project, which includes 43 Boston-area churches.

The plan is to use black churches, often found within the nation's most crime-ridden areas, as around-the-clock sanctuaries for young people seeking refuge from street life, Rivers said. In addition, church volunteers act as missionaries to black youths, gang members and other wayward youth, with options exist, Rivers said.

The campaign, "Operation 2006," will mobilize 1,000 churches in 40 of the country's most dangerous neighborhoods

to start or expand anti-crime programs.

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Q. How prevalent is gum disease?

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Gum disease is caused by bacteria in plaque, the

colorless film that keeps forming on the teeth. Failure to control plaque by thorough brushing and flossing allows the bacteria to attack gums around the teeth. The gums begin to pull away, forming pockets where more plaque and

bacteria can hide. The bacteria can damage the bone and tissue that support the teeth.

Gum disease often is detected at dental checkups before a patient notices symptoms. In early stages, the problem can be treated successfully before irreversible damage is done to the gums and bone supporting the teeth.

Professional cleaning, usually at the time of a scheduled checkup, removes plaque that even the most thorough brushing and flossing can't reach.

Brought to you as a public service by Dr. James Clark

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Tiger Woods is the master

Continued from page 1

another milestone, the greatest winning margin in any major since Tom Morris Sr. in 1862 who won the British Open by 13 strokes. His first place check of \$480,000 gave him \$1,757,594 in earnings since turning pro last year. Once his final putt secured his victory, Woods was fighting back tears as he hugged his father Earl, who had recently underwent surgery, and his mother Tida. For him and his family, it was a lifelong dream come true, and Woods is already becoming an inspiration and legend.

His victory July 21, 1996, the year after Elder's historic Masters game. He had known in golf circles as a child prodigy, playing the game since he was 5 and appearing on television with his father demonstrating his skills. He was one of junior golf's most ac-

complished players. He won three straight U.S. Junior Amateur titles in 1991, 1992, and 1993, and three U.S.



Calvin Peete

Amateur titles in 1994, 1995, and 1996. In August, he turned pro and, through his victories in the rest of the year, quickly rose through the ranks, gaining the respect and admiration from his peers and golf fans alike. Today, he is a phenomenon, one that many hope will one day be the sport to more men. Woods may also feel that he has garnered more interest in the sport among young people.

Tiger Woods, however, put this historic win and his whole career in perspective as he put on his green Masters jacket. "I was the first," he said, "but I wasn't the pioneer. Charlie Sifford, Lee Elder, Rhodes—those are the ones who paved the road for me to be here. And I thank them, because if it wasn't for them, I might not have had the chance to play at all."

Words of inspiration may be said about Tiger Woods as time goes on. There are other goals he is eyeing. Winning the Masters, U.S. Open, British Open, and the PGA in the same year is on his mind now, as well as breaking the record score of 59 for a competitive round. Considering the talent that he has displayed thus far, those goals may be inevitable.

Lee feels film about '63 bombing his best

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. (AP)—Film director Spike Lee always wanted to make a documentary on the 1963 bombing of the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church in Birmingham.

When he graduated from Morehouse College 15 years ago, Lee wrote to his mother to let her know one of her young girls killed in the bombing, about making the film.

McNair said he stuck the letter in a drawer because Lee had never made any films.

Lee has finally made the documentary—which he filmed in Alabama last year and called “Four Little Girls”—and it will air on HBO next February.

"I have always been intrigued by trying to get the real story with what happened with the bombing of the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church," Lee told more than 100 people—mostly \$50-a-plate diners—at Alabama's State Department dinner at the Birmingham

"I feel this is the best film I've done. It's better than Malcolm X or Do the Right Thing."

Lee spent time in Alabama last year conducting interviews and shooting film for the documentary. The visit also included a meeting with former Gov. George Wallace.

Lee was in Huntsville on Monday night to help raise money for A&M's Council Challenge Campaign, which is trying to raise \$50 million for the university over the next 10 years.

Lee's first film was the 1986 romantic comedy "She's Gotta Have It." He followed that with a string of films—School Daze, Do the Right Thing and Jungle Fever—that depicted race relations. In 1992 he directed Malcolm X, a biography of the slain civil rights leader.

McNair said when he finally met Lee, the filmmaker mentioned the

"I said I didn't think you were ready then," McNair said. "He looked at me and said 'I wasn't, but I didn't know I wasn't.'"

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Cable neglects equal opportunity

continued from page 6

spectrum—and, I might add billions of dollars worth of microwave spectrum in the cable antenna relay service—to licensers it seemed we could never have—a Black man or woman on the air except that a jujitor would never put a Black man or woman on the air except in news stories focusing on crime, and wouldn't even allow a Black church to sponsor the devotional messages which concluded the broadcast day.

Generations of White Men received a vast head start in obtaining the skills, experience, and network of contracts required to become media owners. In the 1950s—decades before the race to ownership of broadcast stations and cable system managers in the 1970s, entrepreneurs in the 1980s and broadcast group or multiple cable system owners in the 1990s.

In 1978, the FCC realized at last that because the airwaves belonged to the people, and we were part of "the people," it had to do something to ensure that we would attain ownership of our fair share of the spectrum resource. This wasn't going to be easy, because 99% of the spectrum had already been given away to Whites.

But the FCC tried anyway, adopting the "tax certificate policy," which meant that companies selling a broadcast station to a cable system to minority would also pay capital gains tax. This enabled over 200 broadcasting stations to find their way into Black and Brown hands.

This policy hardly prevented

Whites from being media owners after all by 1995, minorities still owned only 2.7% of broadcast stations, less than half of one percent of cable systems, and less than three-tenths of a percent of broadcast and cable industry asset value.

Unfortunately, in 1995, right wing ideologues took away this incentive of Whites to sell, and thus removed from Blacks and Browns the ability to buy. For the first time ever, minority media ownership is in free fall. For this we can thank the loss of the tax certificate policy—as well as the growth in media monopolization permitted by the 1996 Telecommunications Act.

In 1996, we saw approximately a 15% decline in minority owned stations.

Here is another threat to our well-being that we have to watch closely: we are witnessing a return to segregation in educational facilities in the context of

Internet-access computer services in the schools. In February 1995, the Department of Education found that Black and Brown children are about 30% less likely than White children to have Internet-access computers in their classrooms.

This "computer segregation" threatens to condemn another generation of young people to second-class employment, economic status, and citizenship. For all of us talk about the "computer revolution" in the schools, little is being done to ensure that every child will learn how to use the computer—“from a teacher who knows how.”

This is a survival issue. Knowing one's way around the Internet will be every bit as essential to being an educated person in the year 2000 as reading, writing and arithmetic were essential to being an educated person in 1900.

to rebuild the sense of community and recognize that we can make a difference," says Johnson.

"New Jersey is blessed with many outstanding individuals, organizations, and corporations that believe in their community and are working to build them up. The 100 recognizes many New Jerseyans whose very able public brokers and those who go quietly about getting the job done."

The most important thing that happens that evening is a sense of camaraderie among individuals with generally similar backgrounds from the progress of black people or to help rebuild New Jersey's urban communities. We are proud that we could initiate this partnership to help stimulate a renewed interest in our urban centers," say Johnson, Editor-in-Chief and co-founder of City News Publishing Company.

This year the City News 100 Most Influential will be a special tribute to the Tuskegee Airmen, African American

can aviators and support units, that distinguished themselves in World War II, despite the hostility and discrimination they faced. Tuskegee Airmen embodied the spirit of achievement that the nation needs today. Tony Brown, film and television producer, WLJB radio talk show host, lecturer, author, and motivational speaker will also be one of the special honorees.

Other honorees will be announced

on April 17 at the 100th anniversary

of the Tuskegee Airmen, sponsored by BELL ATLANTIC, CHASE and PSE&G, as sponsors. Additional sponsors include: CoreState, Bank, Hoechst Marion Roush, GPU Energy, PNC Bank, Prudential, Summit Bank, Valley National Bank, WLJB-AM/WLBS-FM; Cablevision of Newark; Deloitte & Touche, LLP; MetLife, Pepsi Cola, Schering-Plough, Anheuser-Busch Companies, Bank of New York, Blue Cross & Blue Shield of New Jersey, Broad National Bank, City National Bank, Investors Savings Bank, and Nabisco.

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WILMINGTON:
100 Morris Avenue*

DEAL:
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